

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EGEN OCOM JA

SUBJ: ECONCOM IX PREPARATIONS

REF STATE 116739

1. MINISTRY OF LABOR WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS HAVE TENTATIVELY SUGGESTED SIX TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION DURING THE APPROXIMATELY TWO- HOUR COUNTERPART LUNCHEON ON JULY 17 WITH THE SECRETARY OF LABOR OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE. THESE TOPICS HAVE NOT YET BEEN CLEARED WITH THE LABOR MINISTER HIMSELF BUT HAVE BEEN FULLY COORDINATED WITHIN THE MINISTRY. TOPICS ARE:

A. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE JOINT STUDY OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH - THIS IS ENVISIONED AS A VERY SHORT EXCHANGE OF EXPRESSIONS OF SATISFACTION AT THE RESULTS OF JOINT STUDY JUST COMPLETED.

B. NEW MANPOWER POLICIES - THE JAPANESE SIDE WILL EXPLAIN ITS NEW BASIC EMPLOYMENT MEASURES PLAN AND WILL EXPECT THE US TO DESCRIBE NEW AMERICAN MANPOWER POLICIES.

C. LABOR WELFARE POLICIES FOR WORKERS. - EACH
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GOVERNMENT WILL DESCRIBE NEW POLICIES IN THIS AREA.

D. PRICE FLUCTUATIONS, BUSINESS TRENDS AND LABOR PROBLEMS - THE MINISTRY OF LABOR IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN " PHASE 4" AND THE REACTION OF ORGANIZED LABOR TO IT.

E. RECENT POLICIES FOR WOMEN WORKERS - THIS WILL BE A LEAD INTO THE SIXTH TOPIC, A PROPOSED JOINT STUDY ON WOMEN WORKERS. THE MINISTRY OF LABOR EXPRESSED A PARTICULAR INTEREST IN AMERICAN LAWS FORBIDDING EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX AND THE EFFECT THAT THESE LAWS HAVE HAD ON EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES IN THE UNITED STATES.

F. A JOINT STUDY ON WOMEN WORKERS - THE MINISTRY OF LABOR AND THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR HAVE ENGAGED IN THREE PREVIOUS JOINT STUDIES: WAGES; EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS; AND OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH. IN CONSIDERING A NEW SUBJECT FOR A JOINT STUDY, THE MINISTRY BELIEVES THAT THIS PROBLEM IS TIMELY AND OF MUTUAL CONCERN TO BOTH COUNTRIES. IF MUTUALLY AGREED UPON, THIS ITEM ON THE AGENDA WILL SIMPLY BE A CONFIRMATION OF EACH GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO PURSUE THIS STUDY.

2. THE MINISTER OF LABOR WILL LEAD THE JAPANESE DELEGATION. THE TWO VICE MINISTERS AND THE APPROXIMATELY TEN BUREAU CHIEFS WILL ALSO ATTEND. THE RESPECTIVE BUREAU CHIEFS WILL MAKE THE JAPAN PRESENTATION ON THE FOUR MAIN SUBJECTS (THE FIRST AND LAST ITEMS INVOLVE ONLY SHORT CEREMONIAL EXCHANGES AND WILL BE HANDLED BY THE MINISTER.) COMMENT: THE EMBASSY ENDORSES TOPICS SUGGESTED BY THE MOL. WHILE THE JOINT STUDY PROPOSAL SUGGESTED BY MOL IS CERTAINLY TIMELY, EMBASSY SUGGESTS DOL CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE TOPIC OF LABOR COMPENSATION, EVEN THOUGH SUCH A STUDY WAS UNDERTAKEN IN 1966.
SHOESMITH

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